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## **Statement from Michigan Nurses Association in Opposition to SB 136, the Health Care Consciences Objector bill**

The Michigan Nurses Association strongly opposes SB 136. We are very concerned that this legislation would lead to legally protected discrimination in the delivery of vital health care services in Michigan. We also are concerned that it will allow employers to interfere in the private health care decisions of their employees.

This bill could lead to health care providers refusing to provide a whole variety of services including, but not limited to:

- Safer sex counseling for HIV/Aids prevention.
- Infertility treatments.
- Birth control.
- Hormone treatment.
- A variety of treatments that are the result of human stem cell research.

A provider's personal beliefs should not get in the way of their duty to provide patient centered care. Providers should have an obligation to provide medically indicated and requested services regardless of the provider's personal moral objections. No one should have the right to impose their beliefs on another person.

Conscience rights should not be a pretext to interfering with the patients' right to services. This bill is too far reaching and could have a very negative impact on the health care needs of Michigan residents. For these reasons, we request that you vote "No" on SB 136.

Thank you.